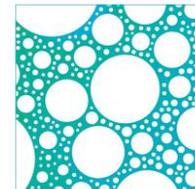


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ACIS Newsletter – Issue 11, October 2016

Welcome

Dear members,

Welcome to our eleventh issue of ACIS News! We produce a quarterly newsletter - sent around in March, June, October, and December - to keep ACIS members informed of our initiatives and for members to directly communicate with their Society. Please send your suggestions and items for the next newsletter to C.P.Whitby@massey.ac.nz.

Gakkai 2016 News

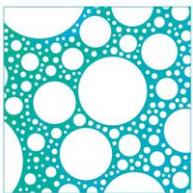
Impressions from the Asahikawa International Symposium



As I sit in Tokyo airport, waiting for my flight back to Sydney following the International Symposium organised by the Japanese Division of Colloids and Interface Chemistry, I am extremely glad to have accepted their invitation to attend. The three-day meeting was very engaging and of a high standard, attracting researchers from Japan, Taiwan, and Australia (I count at least 10 ACIS members in the program), and several European countries (a portion of the overall 700 delegates that attended the Japanese Divisional meeting). Most talks led to a lively and rewarding discussion. I made several new contacts, first seeds of collaboration that I look forward to establishing with Japanese colleagues.

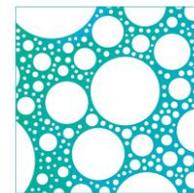
The high level of the science, the interest in collaborating, the delicious food and the interesting culture, as well as the only one hour time difference with Sydney, have definitely disposed me for many more trips to Japan. As the coronation of the Symposium, Prof Naoyuki Ishida, Prof Yonezawa and Dr Deguchi organised a banquet of tasty Mongolian barbecue, and a tour of Mount Asahidake, covered with the stunning colours of the Japanese autumn. I am very grateful to the Board of ACIS for selecting me as their Keynote speaker for this event, and I encourage everyone take the next opportunity for a colloids conference in Japan.





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ACIS 2017 news

Announcing the keynote and invited speakers for the conference themes:

Thin Liquid Films and Surface Coatings



Ullrich Steiner,

Adolphe Merkle Institute, Switzerland

Chairs: Chiara Neto (USydney) and Tim Davey (Dulux)



Doris Vollmer

Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research, Mainz

Biointerfaces



Mark Schlossman

University of Illinois at Chicago, USA

Chairs: Bryan Coad (UniSA), Laurence Meagher (Monash), Ingo Koeper (Flinders) and Gunther Andersson (Flinders)

Nanobubbles



Henry White

The University of Utah, USA

Chairs: Vincent Craig (ANU) and Xuehua Zhang (RMIT)

Controlled Release of Bioactives



Christine Allen

University of Toronto, Canada

Chairs: Wye-Khay Fong (Monash) and Nicky Thomas (UniSA)

Scattering and Self-Assembly



Cecile Dreiss

Kings College, London, UK

Chairs: Charlotte Conn and Rico Tabor (RMIT)

7. Frontiers in Colloid and Interface Science



Brent Murray

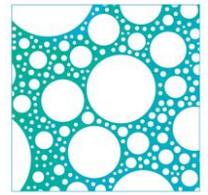
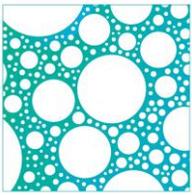
University of Leeds, UK

Chairs: Raymond Dagastine (UniMelb) and Alison Tasker (UQ)



Alex Routh

University of Cambridge, UK



Report from the 30th European Colloid and Interface Society 2016 in Rome



By Virginia Mazzini, PhD student at ANU

In September I attended the [ECIS 2016](#) conference in Rome as the recipient of the 2016 ECIS/ACIS student award. This award originates from a reciprocal agreement between the ACIS and ECIS boards to strengthen their connection. The awardee is chosen from among the best oral presenters at the student conference of one society, and travels to the opposite hemisphere to present an oral contribution at the subsequent conference of the other society.

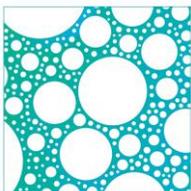
This year, for the occasion of the 30th ECIS conference, more than 700 international attendants gathered. Through four parallel oral sessions and more than 500 posters, most of the current topics related to colloids and interfaces were addressed. This was a larger conference than the ones I have attended so far, and it informed me about the research that happens in and with the European centres.

I presented my work and got constructive feedback from an audience I would not otherwise be likely to encounter as an Australian PhD student. I was warmly welcomed by the people that had worked intensely to set up the ACIS/ECIS award. It feels great to be part of an initiative that builds towards a collaborative global academic research world.

Above all, at this point in my PhD, this experience has helped me compose a broader idea of what's happening now in the field. From the perspective of my next move after the PhD, I got to hear about new research topics that I may be interested in studying, and I got to know or meet people that I think it would be great to collaborate with. This has also given me new motivation now that I am trying to finish my thesis and often feel exhausted.

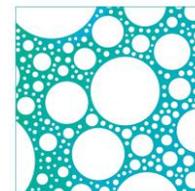
The conference concluded with an achievement the ACIS PhD student community can be very proud of, as Joy Jiang from the University of Sydney was awarded the “Enzo Ferroni” prize for best oral presentation from a PhD student. Congratulations Joy!





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ACIS Equity Policy and Code of Conduct for ACIS 2017



By Chiara Neto and Vince Craig

The Board of ACIS is committed to promoting equity and diversity. The ACIS Board recognises the positive impact that a conference speaking invitation, official involvement in running of a conference, or involvement with the operation of the Board can have on the track record and visibility of its members. We also recognise that some sections of the scientific community are often under-represented in these opportunities, and that this can affect diversity in the long-term. Therefore, the Board has developed an Equity Policy to specify actions and procedures that ACIS will follow in order to promote equity and access in the operation and all dealings of ACIS and the Colloids community, in order to formally foster a culture of inclusiveness, whilst actively working to eliminate all forms of discrimination within ACIS. The Equity Policy can be downloaded here: <https://acis.wildapricot.org/Downloads>

It is important that everyone involved with the Society and attending the events of the Society is made to feel welcome. To promote this at ACIS 2017 we have developed a Code of Conduct which outlines what is expected of delegates and sponsors. The Code of Conduct outlines behaviour that is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. The expectation is that ACIS 2017 will provide an environment that is free from discrimination, vilification, harassment, bullying and victimization. It is our intention that all future events will be covered by a similar code of conduct. The Code of Conduct will shortly become available on the ACIS2017 conference website.

ACS Awards are now open to persons living outside US

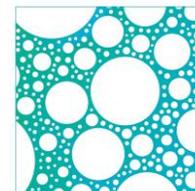
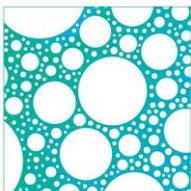


The American Chemical Society (ACS) is soliciting nominations for two awards in the fields of colloid and surface chemistry. It recently changed eligibility rules for the awards to permit nominations of researchers from outside the US. Given the high quality of our colloid and interface science community, there is the potential for some very strong nominations from Australasia for the ACS Awards in Colloid and Surface Chemistry. Potential nominators/nominees are welcome to contact Nicholas Abbott (nlabott@wisc.edu), the 2016 winner of the ACS Award in Colloid Chemistry, if they have questions. The deadline for nominations is November 1st.



Use our LinkedIn Group to tell people your news

ACIS is now present on LinkedIn. Please join our LinkedIn group and post discussion items on job ads, conference calls, and interesting facts about the wonderful world of colloid and surface science.



Nucleating Colloids – a Column for Students & Early Career Researchers



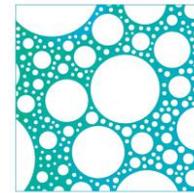
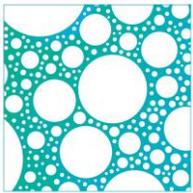
By Liam Scarratt, PhD student at Sydney

I started my undergraduate degree in 2010 with a Bachelor of Science majoring in Chemistry and Physics in 2013 at The University of Sydney, with a year break doing a year in industry at NICNAS through the School of Chemistry in 2012. After finishing my Honours in Chemistry in 2014, I felt like delving more into the research world with a PhD in Chemistry, in which I am now halfway through my 2nd year with Associate Professor Chiara Neto.

One of the biggest challenges I have experienced since starting a PhD is the role of time-management and setting goals to keep up your momentum. Life gets busy, and you will always have tasks to take up your time. In addition to my research and teaching commitments, I live a double life as a performer and a director in my spare time, and tend to have a very packed schedule. I also like to say yes to a lot of tasks, as I believe in taking on as many opportunities as I can, and enjoy lending a helping hand. To top it off, during this current university semester I have been a part of an intensive interdisciplinary prototyping course which is very demanding and highly rewarding (I'll talk about in more detail next time). Being busy is a good thing, but only if you can thrive off of the tasks you do and not get dragged down by them. This is something I have had to change about myself during the past few months.

I have always had trouble switching quickly between tasks, for example, losing an entire day to crafting the perfect presentation, or not being able to sleep until I had finished preparing the best lesson plan for a class. I would get tunnel vision and lock onto an immediate deadline, pushing other important tasks to the sidelines. The busier I became, the more I was torn in different directions for unreasonably long periods of time. Life only gets more intense the more responsibilities you take on, and I had come to realise that this was never going to stop. It was at this point that I took some life advice from my supervisor and started to train myself to only give set amounts of time to each task I did, and plan out my weeks more precisely by the hour in advance.

It seems like common sense, but when you only give a finite block of time for a task, you achieve something every hour at the very least, which is good for your self-esteem and helps to maintain the pressure that makes you perform at a higher level for longer. At first, you may feel like you aren't getting the highest quality of work out of yourself in the reduced time limit, but this is where your personal growth steps in. The goal is to get faster and faster at switching between different tasks while maintaining a high quality of work. After being able to manage this with hourly task blocks, narrow it down to 30 mins and keep that momentum going. If you ever want to climb up into higher level jobs in industry and academia, you need to be able to keep multiple processes running simultaneously without letting the quality slide. I feel that this is one of great skills that doing a PhD forces you to develop, and one that will only enhance your life.



Soapbox - a Column for Colloid and Interface Scientists

2016: A good year for a new start

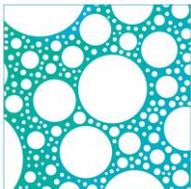


Simon Corrie,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
Monash University

This year, I was fortunate enough to be hired by Monash University's Chemical Engineering Department to start a new research group – the Nanosensor Engineering Lab. I was doubly lucky in that two PhD students (Kye Robinson and Jiul Islam) made the journey to join me from Brisbane a few months later, and that two new students (Julia Walker and Vidhishri Kesarwani) have recently joined the group. The change in environment, combined with the freedom to start my own projects has been fantastic, and I am very much looking forward to the future. The start-up phase has had its challenges (apparently it always does!) but we have had great support from the university.

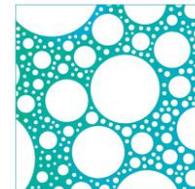
The focus of our new group is in designing biosensors that can be employed to monitor clinically relevant biomarkers in biological systems. Importantly, we are interested in finding out if biomarker “dynamics” could be more helpful in the management of some diseases, instead of currently employed “static” measurements based on *in vitro* sampling and classic blood tests. To do this, we need to design biosensors that operate in a continuous, or semi-continuous fashion, and so we are spending a great deal of time designing reversible sensing chemistries with fast response times. We then package these sensor chemistries into organosilica core-shell nanoparticles, which allow great flexibility in terms of surface/interface chemistry and are also easily size-tuneable and monodisperse. The other capability we are expanding in the group is the design of recombinant proteins that “switch” on or off when they encounter a target analyte, and the subsequent incorporation of these molecules into the outer shell of the nanoparticles.

Based on all of this activity, I'm convinced that we have enough work in front of us to keep ourselves out of trouble! We are also facing classic challenges of colloidal stability and biocompatibility, so I look forward to discussing these issues with others in the ACIS community.



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Activities

Join our Awards, Communications, Conferences and Events Committees

ACIS needs its members to be actively engaged. Please let us know if you would like to be involved in the committees that will run the activities of the Society: *Awards; Communications; Conferences and Events*. Or if you would like to propose other activities we should be running. **We especially invite students and early-career researchers to become involved.** Please email your interest to acis@colloid-oz.org.au.

Sponsorship of Events

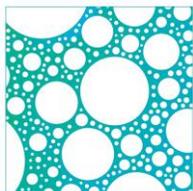
ACIS Sponsorship is available for events (symposia, workshops, industry networking events, and short courses) held in Australia or New Zealand and organised by ACIS members for the benefit of the colloids and interface science community. Prospective event organizers, who wish to request ACIS endorsement and sponsorship, should supply the information requested in the form available on the website <http://colloid-oz.org.au/> at least three months in advance.

Visiting Scientist Register

Are you planning to host a visit by an outstanding scientist in the colloid and interface field? Why not let ACIS members know about the visit? We aim to keep track of visiting scientists, to facilitate their introduction to the Australasian scientific community. Please email details of the visit to acis@colloid-oz.org.au.

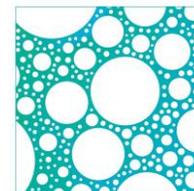
ACIS Membership

Please encourage your colleagues, students and industrial partners working in the field of colloids and interface to join us. General membership is \$100 per annum. The membership year is from 1st July each year. Memberships paid after this date are valid until 30th June of the following year. More information is available on our website <http://colloid-oz.org.au/>.



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Future Events

3rd International Conference on Ionic Liquids in Separation and Purification Technology (8 - 11 January, 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

<http://www.ilsept.com/>

8th International Conference on Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology (12-16 February, 2017, Queenstown) (<http://www.amn8.co.nz>)

5th International Conference on Multifunctional, Hybrid and Nanomaterials (6 - 10 March, 2017, Lisbon, Portugal)

<http://www.hybridmaterialsconference.com/>

3rd Annual World Congress of Smart Materials (16 - 18 March, 2017 Bangkok, Thailand)

Abstract submission close on 25 December, 2016 <http://www.bitcongress.com/wcsm2017/default.asp>

Annual European Rheology Conference/26th Nordic Rheology Conference (3 - 6 April, 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark)

<http://www.aerc2017.dk/>

2nd International Conference on Applied Surface Science (12 - 15 June, 2017, Dalian, China)

Abstract submission close on 3 February, 2017 <http://www.icassconference.com/>

7th International Colloids Conference (18 - 21 June, 2017, Sitges, Spain)

Abstract submission close on 3rd February, 2017 <http://www.colloidsconference.com/>

7th International Congress on Ionic Liquids (25 - 30 June, 2017, Quebec, Canada)

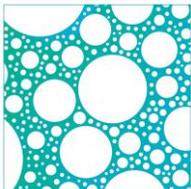
Abstract submission close on 19 December, 2016 for oral presentations, and 10 February, 2017 for poster presentations <http://www.engconf.org/conferences/chemical-engineering/conference-on-ionic-liquids-coil/>

19th International Conference on Microfluidics and Nanofluidics (9 - 10 July, 2017, Prague, Czech Republic)

Abstract submission close on 9 January, 2017 <http://waset.org/conference/2017/07/prague/ICMN>

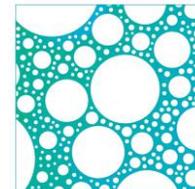
91st ACS Colloid and Surface Science Symposium (9 - 12 July, 2017, New York, USA)

Abstract submission close on 15 April, 2017 <http://www.colloids2017.org/>



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Job Ads

Associate Professor or Professor of Physical and/or Food Chemistry, Monash University

Monash is seeking to appoint an outstanding academic with internationally recognised expertise in the field of Physical and/or Food Chemistry within the School of Chemistry, in the Faculty of Science. The closing date is 28 October 2016. The post is advertised at:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/unijobs/listing/39591/associate-professor-or-professor-of-physical-and-or-food-chemistry/>

Associate Professor or Professor in Polymer Chemistry

Monash is seeking to appoint an outstanding academic with internationally recognised expertise in the field of Polymer Chemistry within the School of Chemistry, in the Faculty of Science. The closing date is 28 October 2016. The post is advertised at:

<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/unijobs/listing/39592/associate-professor-or-professor-in-polymer-chemistry/>

Please email us ads for PhD and postdoc positions in the area of colloids and interfaces.

The Newsletter team is:

Catherine Whitby – C.P.Whitby@massey.ac.nz

Chiara Neto - chiara.neto@sydney.edu.au

Liam Scarrett - lsc1817@uni.sydney.edu.au

